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Since March 25, 2 new cases of plague have occurred at Callao.

There is only one case of smallpox in the lazaretto at Lima.

Bills of health report plague in Chile as follows: Antofagasta, March 20, 24 cases, isolated. Iquique, March 21, 13 cases in the lazaretto; 10 cases and 7 deaths in 2 weeks.

#### PORTO RICO.

*Report from Ponce—Transactions of service, month of March, 1909.*

Acting Assisting Surgeon Ferrer-Torres reports, April 1:

*Month of March, 1909.*

Vessels inspected.....	15
Disinfected.....	4
In quarantine.....	8
Passengers inspected:	
Incoming.....	71
In transit.....	716
Passengers in quarantine.....	7
Immigrants inspected.....	15
Members of crews inspected.....	738
Bills of health issued.....	41
Pieces of baggage disinfected.....	7

#### RUSSIA.

*Report from Libau—Status of cholera at St. Petersburg—Steamship to be used as detention barracks for emigrants.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon De Forrest reports, April 3:

From March 27 to 31, inclusive, there were 13 cases of cholera with 3 deaths at St. Petersburg.

From this date the Russian-America Line will hold one of its steamships in the harbor to serve as barracks for emigrants.

#### VENEZUELA.

*Organization of Commission of Public Hygiene.*

The following decree creating a commission of public hygiene is received from the American minister at Caracas, through the Department of State, under date of April 6:

Whereas it is necessary that there should be a consulting and technical board for studying and resolving scientifically questions of hygiene and public health until congress can legislate on this important branch of the administration—

#### DECREES.

ARTICLE 1.—There is hereby created, provisionally, in the city of Caracas, and under the minister of the interior, a consulting and technical board to be called the commission of public hygiene.